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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, U. S. INTELLIGENCE BOARD

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SUBJECT: Award for [redacted]

This memorandum is in response to Item No. 3 of USIB-M-80, dated 9 February 1960, which noted that means of recognizing the substantial contribution of [redacted] in the field of intelligence should be explored further within State, Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency.

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A review of the directives concerned with awarding the Medal of Freedom and the Legion of Merit reveals that one award is possible in this instance--i. e., the Medal of Freedom with palm by, or at the direction of, the President. Under the circumstances, the gold palm would appear to be the proper degree of medal to bestow.

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If an award is given at the direction of the President, it could be presented by either the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Defense. Inasmuch as the organization headed by [redacted] is part of the [redacted], it would seem more fitting for the award to be made by the Secretary of State. This procedure would also obviate the need to make specific references in the citation to intelligence of any kind, thus reducing the security classification of the citation and eliminating any security problems attendant in making this award.

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It is therefore recommended that the U. S. Intelligence Board request the Department of State Member to proceed with this matter.

Graves B. Erskine
GRAVES B. ERSKINE
General, USMC (Ret.)
Assistant to the
Secretary of Defense
(Special Operations)

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

*Reproduced & circulated
as USIB-C-14 1/16, 24 Feb 60*

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE) *Expense*

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19 February 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Secretary, United States
Intelligence Board

SUBJECT:

Recognition of

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1. This memorandum includes recommendations for approval by the Chairman, United States Intelligence Board.

2. FACTS

a. Use of the Medal of Freedom to recognize cooperation and collaboration of foreign officials with activities of the United States, particularly in the interests of the security of the United States, is quite appropriate. Examples of such uses within the past two years include State's presentation on 4 July 1958 of the Medal of Freedom with Silver Palm to Baron de Fernig, Commissioner General, Brussels International Exhibition; essentially for assistance in establishing the United States Pavilion. Also in 1958, Navy recognized three British civilians who aided the United States Navy in developing the steam catapult by presenting Medals of Freedom with Bronze Palm. Again in 1958, United States Air Force conferred two Medals of Freedom with Bronze Palm--one to the Chairman, Spanish Central Control Committee for assistance to JUSMAAG; the other to a senior French liaison officer in Morocco.

b. Army used it twice in 1956 to honor Swedish and German Red Cross officials, and in 1955 with Bronze Palm conferred it on a Korean National Police official. General Hull, when leaving the Far East Command in March 1955, presented the Medal of Freedom with Gold Palm to Syngman Rhee; but this was probably a White House award.

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3. DISCUSSION

a. To aid in selecting an appropriate level of the four different grades of the Medal of Freedom a comparison with other United States decorations for service or achievement follows:

<u>Awarded to foreign personnel</u>	<u>Awarded to U. S. personnel</u>
Medal of Freedom w/Gold Palm	= Distinguished Service Medal
Legion of Merit, Chief Commander	
Medal of Freedom w/ Silver Palm	= Distinguished Service Medal
Legion of Merit, Commander	
Medal of Freedom w/ Bronze Palm	= Legion of Merit
Legion of Merit, Officer and Legionnaire	
Medal of Freedom without Palm	= Bronze Star Medal

b. The equivalent of the Medal of Freedom with Gold Palm is the Legion of Merit in the degree of Chief Commander. This decoration is usually reserved for Heads of State and awarded by the President of the United States. Hence, the Medal of Freedom with Silver Palm would appear to be most appropriate for the

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[redacted] as it equates with the Legion of Merit, degree of Commander and thus is one step higher than the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer presented to
25X1 [redacted] for wartime services.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

a. The United States Intelligence Board agree that the Medal of Freedom with Silver Palm be awarded to [redacted]

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[redacted]

b. The Secretary of State with such assistance as the Chairman or other Board members may furnish take action to gain a delegation of authority from the President to award the Medal for meritorious service in the interests of the security of the United States.

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c. Official records show the award to have been made by the Department of State to an official of the [redacted] without reference to the Board's interest.

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(NOTE: These recommendations have been discussed with Dr. Gigrich of Defense and Mr. Skiff of State who raise no objection.)

[redacted]
Recorder,
CLIA Honor and Merit Awards Board

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